

G E B C O

GENERAL BATHYMETRIC CHART OF THE OCEANS



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC
COMMISSION

COMMISSION OCEANOGRAPHIQUE
INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE

PARIS



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INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
ORGANIZATION

ORGANISATION HYDROGRAPHIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

MONACO

*From: Prof. R.B. Whitmarsh, GEBCO Permanent Secretary, School of Ocean and Earth Science,
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To GEBCO Personalities and Colleagues

28 October 2005

Dear Colleague,

First Circular: GEBCO Meetings in 2006

The GEBCO Guiding Committee, the Sub-Committee on Digital Bathymetry (SCDB) and the Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) will meet, together with the Consultative Group on Ocean Mapping (CGOM) of IOC, in Bremerhaven, Germany from 14-23 June 2006. The meeting will be hosted by Guiding Committee member Dr. Hans Werner Schenke and will probably take place in the German Maritime Museum adjacent to the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research. This promises to be a major opportunity for all those interested in ocean mapping to congregate, review progress, present new results and discuss future activities.

1. Meeting Plan

The current meeting schedule outline is as follows,

Wednesday 14th June – Friday 16th June: SCDB including an open one-day Workshop

Friday 16th June – Saturday 17th June: CGOM

Saturday 17th June: SCDB break-out sessions and Working Groups

Sunday 18th June: informal discussions and social time

a.m. Monday 19th June: Joint session of Guiding Committee and CGOM

p.m. Monday 19th June – Tuesday 20th June: Guiding Committee

Wednesday 21st June – Friday 23rd June: SCUFN

2. Local contact

Dr. Hans Werner Schenke
Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research
P.O.B. 12 01 61, 27515 Bremerhaven, Germany

email: Schenke@AWI-Bremerhaven.de
phone: +49 (0)471 4831 1222/1223; mobile: +49 (0)172 4359222
fax +49 (0)471 4831 1977

3. Hotel accommodation

The hotels are expected within 5 minutes walk of the meeting location. Block bookings have been made in the following hotels. Please quote "GEBCO-2006" when making a reservation.

Hotel Haverkamp, Prager Straße 34, 27568 Bremerhaven, Germany

Tel.: +49 471/48330, fax: +49 471/4833281

info@hotel-haverkamp.de, <http://www.hotel-haverkamp.de>

AWI rate: single, standard: €65.00, luxus: €88.00; double, standard: €92.00, luxus: €118.00

Nordsee Hotel Bremerhaven, Theodor-Heuss-Platz 14-18, 27568 Bremerhaven, Germany

Tel: +49 471/4877-0 fax: +49 471/4877-999

info@nordsee-hotel-bremerhaven.de, <http://www.nordsee-hotel-bremerhaven.de>

AWI rate: single €66.00, double €96.00

Hotel am Theaterplatz, Schleswiger Straße 3 – 5, 27568 Bremerhaven, Germany

Tel +49 471/42620, fax: +49 471/416516

http://www.seestadtbremerhaven.de/gastgeber_detail.php?typ=hotel&start=1&num=13

AWI rate: single room €36.00

4. Travel arrangements

There are several options for travelling to Bremerhaven. The nearest international airports are Bremen (65 km/41 miles) and Hamburg-Fuhlsbuettel (160 km/100 miles) but Hannover (150km/93 miles) is also a possibility.

Bremen airport has daily direct flights to a number of European cities like Amsterdam (4x), Paris (4x), London (3x), Copenhagen (2x), Brussels (2x), Frankfurt (6x) and Munich (9x). From Bremen Airport it takes 60-80 min directly by tram and train via Bremen central train station (Hauptbahnhof) to Bremerhaven. The tram to the railway station leaves directly from the airport every 20 minutes. The train to Bremerhaven departs hourly, a one-way ticket can be purchased at the tram station.

The airport Hamburg-Fuhlsbuettel, which is located 8 km north-west of the city centre, is connected by shuttle bus, every 15min, to the main train station, from where it takes about two hours by train via Bremen to Bremerhaven, changing trains in Bremen.

Bus transport from Hamburg or Bremen to Bremerhaven is not recommended.

Alternatively one can travel by express train from Schiphol airport, Amsterdam, which has its own railway station in the airport, to Bremen in 4-6 hours and then on to Bremerhaven in a further 35-50 minutes, depending on whether one catches the express or the usual train.

5. About Bremerhaven

Germany is a member of the European Union and participates in the Eurozone. The Federal State of Bremen is the smallest (in area and population) of the Federal States (Bundesländer) of Germany but of vital economic significance. Bremen itself represents one of the major industrial cities of northern Europe. Bremerhaven, despite its location in the middle of Lower Saxony at the mouth of the Weser River approx. 37 miles (60 km) north of Bremen, is part of the Federal State of Bremen. It was founded as Bremen's port in 1827 and today is still one of the largest ports of Germany. Together with important centres in Kiel and Hamburg, the Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI) for Polar and Marine Research in Bremerhaven forms the 'magic triangle' of marine research in Germany.

Latitude 53° 33' N and longitude 8° 35' E - that's Bremerhaven in exact geographical terms. At the gateway to the North Sea, Bremerhaven has turned into one of the largest seaports in Europe, a centre for marine and polar research, the largest fishing port in continental Europe, Europe's most important centre for frozen food processing, a centre for coastal research and, on top of all this, the commercial and cultural focal point of the region.

Three minutes from the river side there's the shopping boulevard by the sea with art, culture and restaurants. Besides the German Maritime Museum and the newly opened Emigration Center the Historical Museum of Bremerhaven narrates the past impressively in a special type of local history museum. The famous Columbus Quay, where millions of emigrants began their journey and Elvis Presley arrived as a GI in the US Army, is today the heart of Europe's most up to date cruise terminal, the Columbus Cruise Center. The adjacent container terminal "Wilhelm Kaisen" (3,237 metres long) is the longest sea-quay in the world. Besides being Europe's fourth largest container port, well over 1.3 million cars a year are processed here in an area covering more than two million square metres.

Especially interesting for families, the "Zoo at the Sea" situated on the river embankment shows animals of the north - on land, in and beneath the water. More than 200 animals of 40 different species and 3.5 million litres of water occupy 8,000 square metres.

German Maritime Museum (Deutsches Schiffahrtsmuseum)
<http://www.dsm.de> (German, short information in English and French)

German Emigration Center (Deutsches Auswandererhaus)
<http://www.dah-bremerhaven.de> (German/English)

Historical Museum (Historisches Museum) Bremerhaven
<http://historisches-museum-bremerhaven.de> (German/English)

6. Climate

Northwestern and coastal Germany have a maritime climate caused by warm westerly winds from the North Sea; warm summers characterize this type of climate. To this maritime weather the Icelandic low-pressure system and the Azores high-pressure system contribute the major air masses. Both of these air masses furnish Western Europe with moisture-laden clouds propelled by westerly winds. Thus there is precipitation all the year round. July is the warmest month when the temperature is 18°C in low-lying regions.

7. Meeting Agenda

Suggestions for agenda items should be addressed to me in the first instance.

Regards,

R.B. Whitmarsh, GEBCO Permanent Secretary